R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner indicated that copies of the non-US references submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed November 15, 2006, were not received and therefore were not considered. However, the electronic file wrapper for this application available on Private Pair system does include copies of the foreign references and non-patent literature (NPL documents), which evidences their receipt. Accordingly, consideration of the non-US references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement filed November 15, 2006 is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to remove reference to claims 1-9 and to correct some minor typographical errors. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 11 has been amended to recite a working machine comprising a boom having a first end attached to a structural body, a fork attached to a second end of the boom, a bell crank attached to a middle position of the boom in a longitudinal direction thereof, a tilt cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on an upper end of the bell crank when the fork is horizontally at a ground position, a boom cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on the boom and a connecting link for connecting a lower end of the bell crank and the fork when the fork is horizontally at a ground position. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to recite that a pivot position of the tilt cylinder to the structural body is below a pivot position of the boom to the structural body, and a pivot position of the boom cylinder to the structural body is above a pivot position of the boom to the bell crank when the fork is horizontally at a ground position. Claim 14, moreover, has been amended in a similar manner except that claim 14 recites a bucket attached to the second end of the boom instead of a fork.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite a working machine comprising a boom having a first end attached to a structural body, an attachment attached to a second end of the boom, a bell

crank attached to a middle position of the boom in a longitudinal direction thereof, a tilt cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on an upper end of the bell crank when the attachment is horizontally at a ground position, a boom cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on the boom and a connecting link for connecting a lower end of the bell crank and the attachment when the attachment is horizontally at a ground position. In addition, claim 13 has been amended to recite that each of the attachments is pivotally supported at a different position on the connecting link with reference to a pivot position on the boom, and that a pivot position of the tilt cylinder to the structural body is below a pivot position of the boom to the structural body, and that a pivot position of the boom cylinder to the structural body is above a pivot position of the boom to the bell crank when the attachment is horizontally at a ground position.

Claim 17 has been amended to recite a working machine comprising a boom having a first end attached to a structural body, a bucket attached to a second end of the boom, a bell crank attached to a middle position of the boom in a longitudinal direction thereof, a tilt cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally

supported on an upper end of the bell crank when the bucket is horizontally at a ground position and a bottom surface of the bucket is opposed to a ground surface, a boom cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on the boom, and a connecting link for connecting a lower end of the bell crank and the bucket. In addition, claim 17 has been amended to recite that the angle between the first line segment and the second line segment is set so that a sum of attachment angles of the bucket at a middle position and at a top position of the bucket is substantially 0 degrees, that a pivot position of the tilt cylinder to the structural body is located lower than a pivot position of the boom to the structural body, and that a pivot position of the boom cylinder to the structural body is located higher than pivot position of the boom to the bell crank when the fork is horizontally at a ground position.

Still further, claims 19 and 21 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements, and claims 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 have been canceled, without prejudice.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered, and that the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 11-25 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Arck et al (USP 6,309,171) or Salna (USP 2,876,921), and claims 26-29 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Salna and Mozingo (USP 5,501,570). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 11, a working machine is provided which comprises a boom having a first end attached to a structural body, a fork attached to a second end of the boom, a bell crank attached to a middle position of the boom in a longitudinal direction thereof, a tilt cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on an upper end of the bell crank when the fork is horizontally at a ground position, a boom cylinder having a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on the boom, and a connecting link for connecting a lower end of the bell crank and the fork when the fork is horizontally at a ground position.

In addition, as recited in amended independent claim 11 a pivot position of the tilt cylinder to the structural body is below a pivot position of the boom to the structural body, and a pivot position of the boom cylinder to the structural body is

above a pivot position of the boom to the bell crank when the fork is horizontally at a ground position. These features are shown, for example, in Fig. 10, wherein the pivot position (Z) of the tilt cylinder 12 to the structural body 16A is below a pivot position (S) of the boom 10 to the structural body 16A, and a pivot position of the boom cylinder (17) to the structural body (16A) is above a pivot position (Y) of the boom (10) to the bell crank (11) when the fork (30) is horizontally at a ground position. Figs. 1 and 13 show similar features with the working machine including a bucket 20 instead of a fork 30.

Amended independent claims 13, 14 and 17 include similar features, but instead of a fork attached to the second end of the boom, claims 13, 14 and 17 recite a bucket or an attachment.

With the structure of the claimed present invention, a working machine is provided which has improved angle characteristics relative to prior art working machine (as described in the specification at, for example, page 10, line 18 to page 11, line 1) and/or has improved tilting force characteristics relative to prior art working machines (as described in the specification at, for example, page 11, lines 3-14).

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose, teach or suggest the above described structural features and advantageous effects of the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 11, 13, 14 and 17.

Arck et al describes a mobile loading machine having a tilt cylinder 7. The tilt cylinder 7 of Arck et al, however, does not have a second end pivotally supported on an upper end of a bell crank (rather, it is supported on the lower end of the bell crank 3), nor a pivot position of the tilt cylinder to the structural body situated below a pivot position of the boom to the structural body, as according to the claimed present invention.

Salna describes a tractor loader having a tilt cylinder 30 pivotally supported on the tractor supporting body by pivotal mounting means 33 and on a bell crank or lever 31 by pivotal mounting means 34, and a boom cylinder 17 pivotally supported at one end on the tractor supporting body by pivotal mounting means 20 and at an intermediate position between its ends to the walls of the boom 14 by pivotal mounting means 18. The boom 14 is pivotally connected to bell crank 31 by pivotal mounting means 35 which are situated above pivotal mounting means 20. Therefore, the boom cylinder 7 does not have a first end pivotally supported on the structural body and a second end pivotally supported on the boom, nor a pivot position of the boom cylinder to the structural body which is above a pivot position of the boom to the bell crank, as according to the present claimed invention.

Mozingo, moreover, has merely been cited for the disclosure of a particular angle between line segments connecting pivot positions on the boom and bell crank.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 11, 13, 14 and 17, and claims 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 and 29 depending therefrom, clearly patentably distinguishes over Arck et al, Salna, and Mozingo, taken singly or in any combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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